

tency, and shall have first obtained a certificate of competency from the Examining Board, as hereinbefore provided. Such fire boss shall carefully examine, before each shift enters the mine, every working place, all places adjacent to live workings, every roadway, every unfenced road to abandoned workings, and falls in the mine, the entrance to worked-out portions of such mine, adjacent to roadways and working places under his charge, within which accumulations of explosive gas may gather; and at each working place such fire boss shall mark the date and his initials upon the face. He shall note the air at every such point, and shall see whether the air currents are traveling their proper course; and wherever he finds explosive gas or other danger, he shall either fence off the dangerous locality or place warning signals across the passage way, ordering all persons not to enter.

An. Code, 1924, sec. 134. 1922, ch. 307, sec. 133.

134. Any mine foreman holding a first-class certificate of competency may act as fire boss; and in an emergency any fire boss, properly certified, may act as assistant mine foreman until a regularly qualified person may be employed.

An. Code, 1924, sec. 135. 1922, ch. 307, sec. 134.

135. The operator shall provide a permanent station at or near the principal entrance of the mine, indicated plainly by legible signs, at which the fire boss shall attend before men go in to their shifts, to give information regarding the state of the mine. When the working portions of any mine are one mile or more from the entrance to such mine or from the bottom of the shaft or slope, a station may, with the approval of the district mine inspector, be located near such workings. No one but the mine foreman or fire boss or some one by them especially authorized in an emergency may pass beyond such station until such mine has been examined in every part as hereinbefore required and reported safe. The fire boss shall not permit any persons not authorized to enter into or remain in any portion of such mine through which a dangerous accumulation of gas is being passed into the ventilating current from any portion of such mine, and shall report any violation of this provision to the mine foreman. When the station of the fire boss is located at a distance within the mine in order to be convenient to portions being worked, the operator shall wall off all abandoned workings, whether finished or not, from the main intake and manway headings or passageways of the mine by stoppings of masonry or concrete, sufficiently heavy to keep explosive or noxious gases from entering the intake air at any point between such fire bosses' station and the entrance to such mine.

An. Code, 1924, sec. 136. 1922, ch. 307, sec. 135.

136. Suitable record books shall be kept at the mine office on the surface and at the fire bosses' permanent station, in duplicate, to be accessible to the district mine inspector and any employee of such mine. The fire boss shall enter and sign in ink, a full daily report of each day's examination, stating clearly the approximate amount of explosive or noxious gases found and where found, and also state clearly the nature and location of any danger that may have been discovered in any place in such mine, and whether such danger has been immediately reported to the mine foreman. The mine foreman shall read and countersign such report each day.